

## **Project Description**

The McKinleyville Community Services District (MCSD)'s groundwater study and management plan (Project) is being proposed to improve the understanding of the local hydrologic and geologic conditions and to create an Integrated Regional Groundwater Management Plan for the Project area. The project consists of development and adoption of a Ground Water Management Plan (GWMP) that will help plan for sustainability of groundwater as a local water resource. The project generally consists of four parts: 1) A phased paper and field data collection and analysis program. 2) Development of a groundwater basin conceptual model. 3) A public outreach program to identify key stakeholders to be involved in the plan development process, relevant issues and concerns to be addressed by the plan, and to form the basis for a regional forum for long-term implementation of the plan, 4) Preparation of the GWMP itself.

In order to develop the GWMP, a field program will be initiated to assess the local groundwater basin hydrogeology and water quality. Field activities will include drilling, geophysical logging, well installation and groundwater monitoring. Information collected during the field program will improve understanding of the local groundwater basin, help identify areas of concern and data gaps, and establish criteria to be used to develop and implement the GWMP.

The MCSD will disseminate information to the public by conducting a series of professionally facilitated public meetings/workshops on the draft GWMP and discussing results of the project testing phase through its MCSD Board and Municipal Advisory committee meetings, which are open to public input and discussion. The MCSD's local GWMP will consult with and follow the lead of the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District's local GWMP in assessing current and future local groundwater issues. Implementation of the MCSD's local GWMP will result in clarification of groundwater management issues leading to an enhanced regional approach to shared groundwater basin management.

This project is vital to the District's long term water management planning including protection of groundwater resources, education for the public, and identifying a secondary water source as a backup in the event of a primary source failure. Through implementation of this water project, the MCSD will fulfill its long term goal in planning for its groundwater issues and providing a secure secondary water source.

The MCSD is committed to continuation of its GWMP after the grant funding phase has been completed. The MCSD staff will be tasked with monitoring and assisting in the implementation of the local GWMP programs, including addressing groundwater management issues associated with AB3030. This would include the construction and operation of groundwater projects such as storage, conservation, water recycling, groundwater cleanup, wellhead protection, and extraction. The MCSD staff will be tasked with coordination between the existing and newly created Humboldt County land use plans and the McKinleyville Community Plan to assess the potential of activities that might cause a risk to groundwater. The adopted MCSD GWMP will be incorporated as part of the Northcoast IRWMP.